

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, March 8, 2010

Present: Cheri Hall, Director David Marcotte

Al Gerew, Acting Chair Kevin Mazzearella

Alice Lavigne, Secretary Timothy Pratt

Juliette Lopez-Recinos

Absent: Al Low

Excused: None

Guests: League Representatives Ray Daignault, Burrillville Youth Football; Rob Schionning, Burrillville Little League; Roy Carlson, Burrillville Youth Basketball Association; Brigitte Buxton, Burrillville Jr. Hockey League; Lisa Schiffmann, Burrillville Youth Football; Al Shuman, Burrillville Figure Skating Association; Janice Kaplan, Burrillville Figure Skating Association; and Morris Merchant, Burrillville Figure Skating Association.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Al Gerew, Vice Chair at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.

Motion to accept minutes of February 8, 2010 regular meeting by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence:

Al Gerew stated he had a discussion regarding Mens' Softball with Town Council President Nancy Binns. Tabled until later in the meeting under Old Business.

The Director reported receipt of correspondence from Johnston Parks and Recreation Department regarding the donation of a scholarship for the Director to attend the Rhode Island and Recreation Parks Association annual conference on March 16, 2010. It was decided that as the prior Rhode Island Recreation and Parks Association President Elect and 2009 Department of the Year it was essential that the Director attend since funding from the Town of Burrillville has been eliminated.

Good & Welfare:

Earth Day

The Director distributed Earth Day flyers to the commission. A meeting with Chair of the Burrillville Lions Club Dana Gould, Superintendent of Public Works, a representative of the Blackstone Valley Tourism and the Director was held in preparation for Earth Day set for April 17, 2010. Dunkin Donuts will supply coffee and donuts

and raffles will be held. A group from the National Honor Society has already committed to the event with notices being sent to other groups.

Meal Site

The Director noted a donation of aprons for the new Meal Site volunteers was made by recreation commission member Alice Lavigne.

Joint League and Commission Workshop

A copy of the Recreation Ordinance was distributed to the League Representatives in attendance. Al Gerew referred to ordinance Section 16.3B regarding the ordinances around parks and recreation fees which includes administrative fees and field/facility use fees. The Director stated the fee amounts in the ordinance are not included intentionally should the fees need to be adjusted in the future. A question regarding the \$40 per use for light fees was asked. The \$40 fee is for a facility light fee for a one-time use, not for numerous facility light use fees for a league. The Director stated the light fee usage is still being reviewed. The problem is paying for the electrical fees year round when the facility is not in use during the off season. Ray Daignault of Youth Football stated the portable light fees would be approximately the same as light fees paid last year to the Parks and Recreation Department but if move to the school facility they would avoid the Recreation field use fees. Fees collected last year were not deposited into the general fund, instead were utilized to

offset field maintenance costs such as mowing, etc.

It was stated that mowing and other maintenance by the leagues could possibly assist in offsetting the field use fees. Rob Schionning of Little League stated his league only utilizes the Branch River facility part-time but yet the purchase of stone dust was suggested to offset field use fees being charged. The Director stated the Field Use Permit request for Branch River was for every day and that is why the calculation of field use fees was high but if Little League wanted to provide a more specific schedule a new fee amount could be calculated. Rob Schionning stated \$12,000 was spent by Little League to upgrade Hauser fields a few years ago to offset fees. The Director confirmed this information but stated the town allotment was \$13,000 that year to Little League. Ray Daignault of Youth Football stated he cut practice schedules to assist in cutting field use fees. Dave Marcotte stated the commission needs to assist the leagues since the town's league allotments are being cut and to charge field use fees is something to be reviewed. The Director stated that as a member of the RI Recreation and Parks Association, other city and town allotments have also been eliminated and fees are being charged.

The League Budget Reduction Report was distributed to the leagues showing the five-year reduction plan. The Director reviewed the report including the first reduction year of league allocations for 2009/2010, the current year budget of 2010/2011 for the new allotment

beginning July 1, 2010, and then continuing through 2014/2015. The only change would be if the Budget Board decides to eliminate the league allotments.

The Director mentioned that locks/keys may have to be changed due to keys not being returned. A deposit for keys may be required in the future to offset any lost keys or keys not returned.

The Director stated that without the assistance from Little League and Youth Football the Hauser Facility would not be maintained due to the lack of department staff.

Dave Marcotte left to attend another meeting.

Burrillville Youth Hockey and Figure Skating representatives reviewed the current fees being charged for rink use and the low participation rate due to the current economic situation. A discussion took place regarding the rink running during the summer months to possibly reduce charging the youth leagues.

The League representatives left the meeting.

Old Business:

Skate Park & Other Playgrounds

The Director reported a meeting is scheduled with Town Manager Mike Wood, D.P.W. Superintendent Jeff McCormick, Finance Director John Mainville and herself to discuss the Skate Park and other

playgrounds.

Spring Lake Beach

Nothing new at this time.

Recreation Ordinance

Nothing new at this time.

Bus Trip

The Director reported 38 attendees scheduled to attend the upcoming Foxwoods fundraiser on March 20, 2010.

Men's Softball

Representatives of Men's Softball are scheduled to meet with Town Manager Michael Wood and Council President Nancy Binns regarding use of Hauser field.

C.I.P. & Operating Budgets

Michael Wood presented his recommendations to the Town Council for C.I.P. and Operating Budgets.

New Business:

NYSCA Training

The Director shared NYSCA flyers announcing the upcoming training session scheduled for March 25, 2010.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Director shared Easter Egg Hunt flyers announcing the upcoming event scheduled for March 27, 2010 (rain date April 3, 2010).

Mommy Muscle Program

The Director reported the Mommy Muscle Program has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

Pet Therapy Program

The Director shared flyers announcing the new Pet Therapy program scheduled to begin April 6, 2010 at the Callahan Elementary School.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Seconded by Alice Lavigne. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Motion Passed 5-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks & Recreation Office, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859.

Recorded by

Carol L. Conway

Administrative Aide

Burrillville Parks & Recreation Department

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